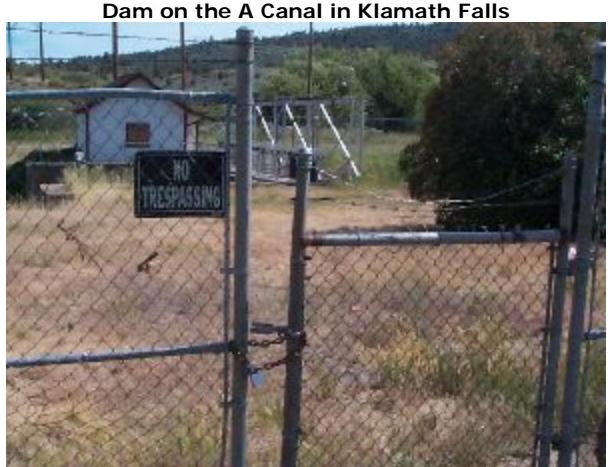


Klamath Falls: Who Turned On The Water?

An Update: 07.02.01

Klamath Falls (a recap) - It seems that the water has begun to flow through the damn gates at Klamath Falls into the irrigation channels - at least for now.



Where Dreams are locked behind the gates.

Sierra Times has learned that somehow, some way, one of the gates came open last night, and water is heading south toward over 1400 farms in the Upper Klamath Basin. As of 14:45 Sierra Time - 06.30.01. This means it's been flowing south for at least 8 hours.

NOTE: If this story did not hit your e-mail box over the weekend, it probably means you're not a Sierra Times Subscriber - a.k.a "Ranch Head". [You can solve that problem here.](#)

As of time of this writing (06.30.01), Federal Bureau of Reclamation's Karl Workis (sp?) has demanded that the Klamath Irrigation District shut the water off immediately- since this damn opening was not done under the

authority of the Federal folks.

[Update: It's still flowing]

However, the Klamath Irrigation District says that since they (KID) are not responsible for opening the flood gates, that are not responsible for closing them either.

One more thing: Seems even the Klamath County Sheriff Tim Evinger was asked to intervene and close the gates. Apparently, he won't do that at this point, either.

Since the dams have been deeded to the Bureau of Reclamation, it's out of everyone's hands as of now.

Look forward to some environmental group or federal agency waking up some Judge on a Sunday morning in an attempt to put a stop to this 'leakage'. After all, 'we have to save that sucker fish, you know'.

Now...

KOBI (CH.5 in Medford, OR) reported that the water in the Klamath Basin is now being diverted to Lost River. They said it will be Tuesday or later before they can get the federal directive" to shut it down. Of course, there will be an argument from the locals which will probably cause a delay, then there's the 4th of July (day off for the courts), etc.

You know how that goes.

As of this point, folks are gathering from around the Northwest to visit that old damn just to see if anyone turns it off. We bet the folks in Klamath Falls never thought the A Canal Dam would become such a tourist attraction.

Sierra Times has learned that attorneys have made themselves available in the event the infamous dam opener is ever brought to justice - and their rates will be pretty cheap, too.

And to you folks in Klamath Falls: wipe those smiles off your faces, and get those fields going. It's not about water- it's about getting another harvest in before years' end.

Remember: **Not For Sale At Any Price.**

We'll keep you posted as the "Drip Heard Around the World" Continues...

From the High Sierras,
J.J. Johnson for Sierra Times.com

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